

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the current abstract with the following marked-up abstract. A clean version of the abstract is attached hereto.

Abstract

~~A silica cake formed of easily dispersible~~An easily dispersible cake of precipitated silica, ~~having small primary particle size is provided, from which highly transparent silica dispersion can be effectively obtained. This silica cake is characterized by being a cake of~~wherein the precipitated silica having has a BET specific surface area of at least 220 m^2/g . ~~When the cake is, and when it is dispersed in ion-exchange water to provide an aqueous dispersion of the silica of 5% by weight in concentration and further diluted to reduce the silica concentration to 1.5% by weight, the dispersion~~having has a light-scattering index (n-value) of at least 2. This silica~~The easily dispersible~~ cake can be obtained by simultaneously adding an alkali silicate and a mineral acid to a reaction liquid whose pH is being maintained at a fixed value within a range of 7.5-11.5 and whose temperature is being maintained at not lower than 90°C, ~~whereby thus forming precipitated silica through their reaction, and separating~~said the precipitated silica from the reaction liquid in wet state.